



CLASSIFIED TELEGRAM

DECLASSIFIED AND RELEASED BY
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
SOURCES METHODS EXEMPTION 3021
NAZI WAR CRIMES CONTROL COMMISSION
DATE 2008

THE FOREIGN SERVICE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA CN 40525

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OPERATIONAL PRIORITY

ORIG DTG: 21 JAN 7 PM

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FROM: DEPT

SENT: BONN 3580

RPTD INFO:

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ACTION

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5

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RECORDS

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FILES

1

REFERENCE TELEPHONE CONVERSATION BOERNER-KELLERHANN BONN 3330 3350 ALL JANUARY 20, AS OF TODAY DEPARTMENT HAS NOT RECEIVED COPIES OF SURVEY AND THEREFORE CANNOT ADDRESS ITSELF TO SUBSTANTIVE MERITS OF FINDINGS. ON BASIS YOUR CABLE SUMMARY AND MIDDLETON ARTICLE WE ARE INCLINED TO BELIEVE HOWEVER RESULTS DO NOT DEVIATE DECISIVELY FROM SIMILAR FINDINGS REPORTED IN PREVIOUS SURVEYS AND CERTAINLY DO NOT WARRANT SWEEPING CONCLUSIONS OF PROGRESSIVELY DETERIORATING SITUATION THEREFORE RISE OF NAZISM, DRAWN BY OUTSIDERS. THIS IS OUR INTERIM JUDGEMENT WHICH WE WILL EXPRESS IN RESPONSE TO INQUIRIES UNTIL FINAL EVALUATION POSSIBLE THROUGH STUDY OF SURVEY LIST.

WE WILL SAY IN ADDITION AND ADVISE YOU TO FOLLOW SAME LINE THAT NO MATTER WHAT INDIVIDUAL FINDINGS ABOVE NEGATIVE GENERAL ELECTIONS CONSIDERED HIGHLY SPECULATIVE AND PREMATURE SINCE SCOPE OF STUDY RESTRICTED TO SELECTED PROBLEMS AND STUDY NOT INTENDED BY ITSELF TO ASCERTAIN COMPLETE PICTURE OF CURRENT POLITICAL TRENDS IN GERMANY. ADDITIONAL STUDIES DEALING WITH OTHER ASPECTS OF INTERNAL SITUATION THEREFORE GERMAN ATTITUDES TOWARD EUROPEAN UNION HAVE BEEN AND ARE CONTINUALLY CONDUCTED ALL OF WHICH POINT UP GROWTH OF POSITIVE DEMOCRATIC AND PRO WESTERN ORIENTATION. RESULTS OF THESE INVESTIGATIONS WILL AFFORD MORE BALANCED EVALUATION OF INTERNAL GERMAN TRENDS AND DEVELOPMENTS.

WE WILL SAY FURTHER THAT PENDING COMPLETION OF OVERALL SURVEY PUBLICATION OF ISOLATED FINDINGS AND QUOTATIONS OUT OF CONTEXT WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED BY US GOVERNMENT AND BY RESPONSIBLE OBSERVERS AS RELIABLE INDEX OF GERMAN OPINION NOR AS CONDUCIVE TO SOBER AND OBJECTIVE JUDGMENT OF POLITICAL ACTUALITIES. US GOVERNMENT WILL TAKE PROPER PRECAUTIONS TO PREVENT UNTIMELY RELEASE OR PROPAGATION BY UNAUTHORIZED SOURCES OF FRAGMENTARY REPORTS PARTICULARLY

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IN CASES WHERE THERE IS DANGER THAT THEY MAY LEND THEMSELVES TO SENTIMENTAL EXPLOITATION WITH RESPECT TO ROLE OF PUBLIC OPINION SURVEYS AS INSTRUMENTS OF POLITICAL ANALYSIS, AND REPORTS WHICH WILL POINT OUT THAT SUCH POLLS CONSTITUTE MERELY ONE AMONG VARIETY OF SOURCES USED BY GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS IN ARRIVING AT FINAL ESTIMATES OF LOCAL SITUATIONS, THAT CARE IS TAKEN TO CHECK INFORMATION OBTAINED THROUGH SURVEYS AGAINST OTHER AVAILABLE INTELLIGENCE AND NOT TO ACCEPT SURVEY FINDINGS UNLESS THEY ARE CONFIRMED BY ADDITIONAL RELIABLE SOURCES.

IT FOLLOWS FROM AFORESAID THAT DEPARTMENT DOES NOT AGREE TO ANY DISTRIBUTION OF SURVEYS MADE BY GOVERNMENT AT THIS TIME AND THAT RELEASE SHOULD BE WITHHELD AT LEAST UNTIL A) ADDITIONAL DATA HAVE BECOME AVAILABLE CONFIRMING MAJOR FINDINGS AND B) SCOPE OF SURVEY HAS BEEN EXTENDED TO PERMIT INCLUSION OF OTHER DEVELOPMENTS AND ATTITUDES WHICH WILL ASSURE MORE BALANCED PRESENTATION. IN EVENT OF FUTURE RELEASE THIS STUDY AS ALL STUDIES OF THIS NATURE SHOULD BE ACCOMPANIED BY AUTHENTIC COMMENT OF HIGH COMMISSIONER OR OTHER AUTHORIZED OFFICERS WHICH WILL PLACE FINDINGS IN PROPER PERSPECTIVE. PENDING DECISIONS ON SUCH RELEASE OPINION SURVEYS SHOULD BE CONSIDERED RAW MATERIAL RESTRICTED TO INTERNAL USE. EVEN BINDING OR SURVEYS UNDER SEPARATE COVER SHOULD BE AVOIDED UNTIL RESULTS HAVE BEEN STUDIED BY APPROPRIATE OFFICES IN HICOG AND HAVE BEEN INTEGRATED WITH SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION COLLECTED FROM SOURCES OTHER THAN PUBLIC OPINION POLLS.

DEPARTMENT REALIZES FACT FINDING PROCESS AS SUCH NO LONGER UNDER US RESPONSIBILITY AND THAT STUDIES OF THIS NATURE CAN AND IN FACT ARE BEING CONDUCTED BY GERMANS EXCLUSIVELY OFTEN WITHOUT HICOG TAKING INITIATIVE. IN OUR VIEW THIS PLACES DOUBLY HIGH RESPONSIBILITY ON THOSE OFFICERS ENTRUSTED WITH PLANNING OF SURVEYS. THEREFORE CONSIDERED IMPERATIVE THAT IN SELECTING AND DEFINING AREAS OF STUDY AND IN PARMING IT OUT TO GERMAN ORGANIZATIONS HICOG OFFICERS EXERCISE GREATEST POSSIBLE CAUTION IN PARTICULAR RESIST FROM LIMITING THEIR QUESTIONS TO CONTROVERSIAL SUBJECTS EXPECTED OR LIKELY TO PRODUCE RESULTS UNFAVORABLE FROM ANGLE OF POLICIES OR PUBLIC RELATIONS. SIMILAR PRECAUTIONS ARE RECOMMENDED WITH RESPECT TO TABULATION AND ANALYSIS OF FINDINGS. WE ALSO DEPLORE LEAK TO MIDDLETON AND TRUST YOU TAKING STEPS TO ENSURE GREATER SECURITY FUTURE HANDLING SUCH REPORTS. THOSE INVOLVED SHOULD REALIZE WE MAY HAVE TO RECONSIDER OUR ATTITUDE TOWARD VALUE THESE REPORTS IF MORE SUCH LEAKS OCCUR. ON SUBJECTS WHICH INVOLVE POSSIBLE POLITICAL REPERCUSSIONS SUCH AS THIS SUGGEST STUDIES AT LEAST WHEN ANALYSIS BEGINS SHOULD BE GIVEN HIGHER CLASSIFICATION THAN "RESTRICTED".

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DEPARTMENT WILL COMMUNICATE WITH YOU FURTHER AFTER RECEIPT AND STUDY OF SURVEY; MEANWHILE WE WILL BE GLAD TO HAVE YOUR COMMENTS.

DULLES

3330 19 JAN 5517 PA/IA
3350 20 JAN 5555 PUB

DELAYED DUE TO GARBED TEXT

NO ACTION TAKEN BY DUTY OFFICER

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